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## WAR NEWS.

The Washington Star says:—"Guerrillas are becoming troublesome on the pike leading from Gainesville to Warrenton, over which route all the supplies of the army are drawn. Sunday night they attacked the mail wagons en route to Warrenton, near New Baltimore, wounded the driver and took him prisoner, and escaped with the horses and harnesses. There was no mail on the wagon. Hereafter trains and mails will be accompanied by a guard."

General Meade's headquarters are still at Warrenton; some say at Catlett's Station.

Work on the Orange and Alexandria railroad is being prosecuted, the advance of the army being dependent upon its completion.

There has been considerable change of position of several corps of the Federal army during the past few days designed, to protect the operations of those engaged in reconstructing the railroad rather than for offensive purposes. There are no indications of any immediate advance movement.

From the report of cannonading, heard at Gainesville on Monday, there was a skirmish going on. A force was thrown out from the 6th corps to reconnoitre. The skirmish on Saturday created considerable stir for the time being, and the 6th Corps was ordered to be ready to move at a moment's notice. The smoke from the Confederate camp fires can be seen beyond the Rappahannock, indicating that they are there in force prepared to dispute the passage of the river or the construction of the railroad bridge. A body of their infantry has been discovered this side of the river at Sulphur Springs. Their cavalry pickets are thrown out this side of the Rappahannock and are in sight of the Federal advance pickets.

On Monday, Mary Welsh and Catharine Hartnelt were arrested by the guard in Washington, just as they were getting on the boat to go to Alexandria. The unusual size of Mary's bust (she was "double-breasted" in every sense of the word) attracted the attention of the guard, and an investigation developed the fact that two good-sized canteens, filled with whiskey, were disposed there. A bottle was also found in the pocket of Catharine's dress. These women were then turned over to a female detective, and she discovered that each had secreted other canteens filled with whiskey by fastening them to their legs. The whiskey was confiscated, and the women were sent to the Guardhouse, and ordered to report to the Provost Marshal of Alexandria.

Gen. Rosecrans said in his speech in Cincinnati on Monday, "it was his firm belief if the forces recently sent to Chattanooga had been ordered there before, as they ought to have been, the backbone of the rebellion would have been broken." The General has left for his home at Yellow Springs.

## THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

A severe fight occurred on Sunday last, near Knoxville, Tenn. The engagement lasted nearly five hours, each side losing about three hundred killed, wounded and missing. The Federals also lost a battery of artillery, captured by the Confederates. The day preceding a body of Federal troops advanced and compelled the Confederates to fall back below Philadelphia, a small town about thirty miles south of Knoxville.

Under date of Chickamauga, October 21, we have an official report from Gen. Bragg, announcing a fight at Philadelphia, on that day, between the Confederates under Morrison and Dibord, and a body of Federal cavalry, resulting in the defeat of the latter and the capture of seven hundred prisoners, fifty wagons, six pieces of artillery, a lot of horses and other property.

General Osterhouse lost seven killed and thirty-seven wounded in the late fight near Corinth, Miss. The Confederates, it is reported, have very strong fortifications at Tusculum, Ala.

The Confederates have made their appearance opposite Memphis, Tenn.—[Balt. Sun.]

LETTERS GOING SOUTH.—A letter from Fortress Monroe says the following rules for letters going South have been established by Gen. Foster:

1. No letter must exceed one page of a letter sheet, or relate to other than purely domestic matter.
2. Every letter must be signed by the writer's name in full.
3. All letters must be sent with five cents postage enclosed, if to go to Richmond, and ten cents if beyond.
4. All letters must be enclosed to the commanding general of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, at Fortress Monroe, marked on the outside, "for flag of truce." No letter sent to any other address will be forwarded.

All letters sent to Fortress Monroe, without a strict compliance with these rules, except for prisoners of war, will be transmitted to the dead letter office.

It is known that Admiral Dahlgren has asked leave to return to Washington for a very limited time, but it does not follow by any means that he is to be superseded in command of the fleet before Charleston. Admiral Farragut has recently stated that he should go to sea in a few days, but Charleston is not supposed to be the point of his destination. It is said that the fleet at Charleston stops blockade running there, but Wilmington (the present seat of that sort of operations) is known to be strongly fortified.

General Milroy has received leave of absence for twenty days, and will set out for Indiana to-day. The delay in the promulgation of the record of the Court of Inquiry in the matter of the evacuation of Winchester is no wise connected with General Milroy, whose exoneration is complete. The President's hesitation relates to the officers who are censured by the Judge Advocate General.

## GEN. ROSECRANS.

The causes that led to the removal of this officer will be officially known in the proper time, although, for good reasons, the Government does not think proper to make them public now. Nothing but a stern necessity compelled the President to take the course which has created so much excitement and feeling. The appointment of Gen. Thomas in his stead does not necessarily prove that the conduct of General Rosecrans at Chickamauga was the sole or even the immediate cause of his superseding. Indeed, if the General is correctly reported by the telegraph, the President wrote to him after that battle in commendation of his bravery. But, as we have already intimated, we believe, and could give good authority for the belief, that other causes decided the Commander-in-Chief to remove him, and that among those causes were at least two distinct cases of disobedience of orders.—Wash. Chron.

In the great trotting match yesterday over the National Course in Washington for \$1,000, the horse General Butler was the winner. The race was for the best three in five; the three noted trotters, General Butler, Prince and Belle of Hartford, entering.

Col. Sothoron, and his son, of St. Mary's county, Md., and the females of the family, have, it is said, abandoned their estate, and escaped into Virginia.

A mass meeting of the Unconditional Union men is to be held at Monument square in Baltimore, this evening. A number of prominent speakers are advertised to address the meeting.

A number of liquor shops in Washington have lately been closed by military authority.

Heavy frosts at night, and cool days may be "quoted" as the present state of the weather.

The small pox is prevailing extensively at Fort Delaware.

Gold, in New York, yesterday, 145½.

The new order for the enlistment of colored soldiers, which will soon be published, applies to Maryland, Missouri, Tennessee and Delaware but not to Kentucky or West Virginia. Delaware was added at the personal request of Governor Cannon. Free negroes and slaves whose masters make no objection, or whose masters have aided in the war, are to be recruited first. If the required number—not stated—is not procured by this means, the recruiting officers are to take all who desire to fight, whether their masters are willing to spare them or not.

The Admiral of the Russian fleet at New York announces that after a complimentary visit to President Lincoln, he will call at the different seaports whose citizens have honored him with invitations. This includes the ports of Baltimore and Washington.